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17 OCT 1957

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Mr. Allen Evans, Director  
Office of Intelligence Research  
Department of State

**ATTENTION:** Mr. Edwin Jones

**SUBJECT:** Reconciliation of Chinese Communist Cotton Crop  
Figures with Estimates of Uses of Cotton

1. Attached is a discussion of the problem of reconciling official Chinese Communist data on the cotton crop with estimates of the uses of cotton. As outlined in the attachment, the Chinese cotton textile industry is operating so much below capacity as to cause unemployment. At the same time, official Chinese cotton crop data show the Chinese to have a surplus of some 200,000 metric tons of cotton more than can be accounted for by our estimates of known cotton uses. This problem has also been examined in a recent CIR report as noted in paragraph 3 of the attachment.

2. I suggest that a meeting of CIR and CIB people interested in the problem should prove of value in reaching a solution. If you concur with this suggestion, please have your representative contact [redacted] Chief, Consumer Industries Branch, Industrial Division (Code 14-1, Extension 8376).

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[redacted]  
Assistant Director  
Research and Reports

**Attachment:**  
Reconciliation of Chinese  
Cotton Crop Figures with  
Estimates of Uses of Cotton

**Distribution:**  
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OMR:D/I/CI [redacted] 14/8376 (14 Oct 57)

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